Workplace Fatalities



3/21/01 Crushed

A 35-year-old paving crew worker was killed when caught between a trailer and a piece of equipment. The victim was working between a CMI asphalt machine, (which is about 60 feet long), and a dump truck with a trailer. He was a member of a three-person crew working as spotters for the machine.

The crew was removing two inches of asphalt from the road surface. The victim was walking between the machine and the dump, when the operator of the asphalt machine did not see that the victim had moved. The victim also did not tell the operator that he had moved. The asphalt machine came in contact with the trailer of the truck and crushed the worker.

Questions to ask?

- Do your equipment operators, truck drivers and ground personnel maintain contact with each other?
- Do you have a site plan (foot and vehicle traffic), and is it communicated to all workers?
- Are your workers wearing high visibility clothing (vests, pants, etc.)?